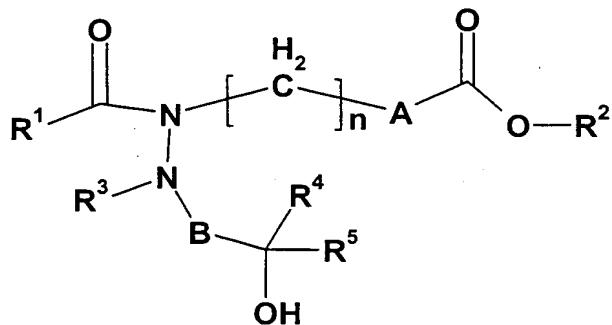


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hydrazide derivative of Formula (I):



(I)

as well as its geometrical isomers, its optically active forms as enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures of these, as well as salts thereof, wherein:

A is selected from the group consisting of C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl;

B is selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆ alkylene, C₂-C₆ alkenylene, and C₂-C₆ alkynylene;

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl C₁-C₆ alkyl, heteroaryl C₁-C₆ alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl;

R² and R³ are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl and C₂-C₆ alkynyl[[.]];

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl;

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, C₁-C₆ heteroalkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl C₁-C₆ alkyl, aryl C₁-C₆ alkyl, heteroaryl C₁-C₆ alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl; and

n is an integer selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative of according to claim 1, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of aryl and heteroaryl.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to claims 1 or 2 claim 1, wherein A is phenyl.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein B is ethylene.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R¹ is C₁-C₆ alkyl.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R² is H.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R³ is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R³ H.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R⁴ is H.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein n is 2.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein A is phenyl; B is ethylenyl; R¹ is C₁-C₆ alkyl; R² and R⁴ are H; R³ is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl; and n is 2.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₆ alkyl and C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R⁵ is aryl C₁-C₆ alkyl.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R⁵ is heteroaryl C₁-C₆ alkyl.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein R⁵ is C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, selected from the following group consisting of:

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[3-hydroxy-4-(3-iodophenyl)butyl] hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(3-bromophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-[2-(1-acetyl-2-{3-hydroxy-4-[3-(phenylethynyl)phenyl]butyl}hydrazino)ethyl] benzoic acid;

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxy-4-phenylbutyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(3-ethynylphenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(3-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-[2-(1-acetyl-2-{3-hydroxy-4-[4-(phenylethynyl)phenyl]butyl}hydrazino)ethyl] benzoic acid;

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxy-4-thien-2-ylbutyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid;

4-[2-(1-acetyl-2-{4-[3-(cyclopropylethynyl)phenyl]-3-hydroxybutylhydrazino)ethyl] benzoic acid;

4-[2-(2-{3-hydroxy-4-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]butyl}-1-isobutyrylhydrazino)ethyl] benzoic acid;

4-[2-(2-{3-hydroxy-4-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]butyl}-1-propionylhydrazino)ethyl] benzoic acid;

4-[2-(1-acetyl-2-{3-hydroxy-4-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]butyl}hydrazino)ethyl] benzoic acid;

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-cyclohexyl-3-hydroxypropyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid; or
and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of said compounds.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A hydrazide derivative selected from the ~~following~~ group consisting of:

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxyoctyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid;
4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxyoctyl)-2-methylhydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid;
4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxybutyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid; and
~~or~~ a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of said compounds.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of~~ the preceding claims claim 1, for use as a medicament.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A method for treating a disease or disorder associated with prostaglandins, comprising administering to a mammal suffering from or susceptible to such a disease or disorder an effective amount of a compound ~~of any one of~~ claims 1 through 17 according to claim 1.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A method for treating a mammal ~~is~~ suffering from or susceptible to pre-term labor, dysmenorrhea, asthma, hypertension, undesired blood clotting, pre-eclampsia, eclampsia, an eosinophil disorder, undesired bone loss, renal dysfunction, an immune deficiency disorder, dry eye, ichthyosis, elevated intra-ocular pressure, a gastric ulcer, fertility disorders, sexual dysfunction and inflammatory disorders comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a compound ~~of any one of~~ claims 1 through 17 according to claim 1.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): [[A]] ~~The method according to claims 19 or 20~~
claim 19, wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible undesired muscle contraction.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): [[A]] ~~The method according to claim 19~~, wherein
the mammal is suffering from or susceptible to pre-term labor.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): [[A]] ~~The method according to claims 19 or 20~~
claim 19, wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible to a respiratory disease
selected from asthma, chronic obstructive respiratory disease and emphysema.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): [[A]] ~~The method of claims 19 or 20~~claim 19,
wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible to hypertension.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): [[A]] ~~The method of claims 19 or 20~~claim 19,
wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible to bone loss.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): [[A]] ~~The method of claims 19 or 20~~claim 19,
wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible ovulatory disorders.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): [[A]] ~~The method of claims 19 or 20~~claim 19,
wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible erectile dysfunction.

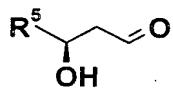
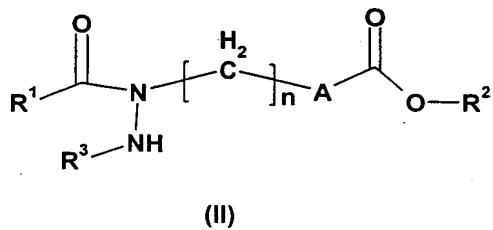
Claim 28 (Currently Amended): ~~Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 through~~
~~17~~ The hydrazide derivative according to claim 1 for the preparation of a medicament to treat
a disease or disorder associated with prostaglandin.

Claim 29 (Cancelled).

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and one or more compounds of ~~any one of claims 1 through 17 according to claim 1.~~

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): [[A]] ~~The pharmaceutical composition of according to claim 30,~~ wherein the compound is packaged together with instructions for use of the compound to treat a disorder or a disease selected from preterm labor, dysmenorrhea, asthma, hypertension, undesired blood clotting, a destructive bone disease or disorder, preeclampsia or eclampsia, an eosinophil disorder, renal dysfunction an immune deficiency disorder, dry eye, ichthyosis, elevated intraocular pressure and gastric ulcers.

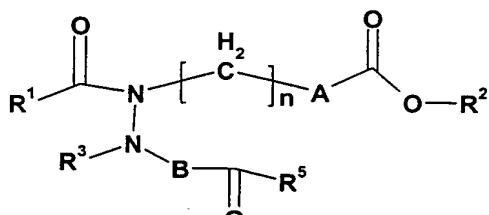
Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A process for the preparation of a hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of claims 1 to 17~~ claim 1, comprising the step of a reductive amination of a hydrazide of Formula II with a compound of Formula III in presence of a reducing agent:



(III)

wherein A, R¹, R², R³ and n are as defined above; R⁵ is -CH₂-R⁶ wherein R⁶ is selected from C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₂-C₅ alkenyl, C₂-C₅ alkynyl, C₁-C₅ heteroalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkyl C₁-C₅ alkyl, aryl C₁-C₅ alkyl and heteroaryl C₁-C₅ alkyl.

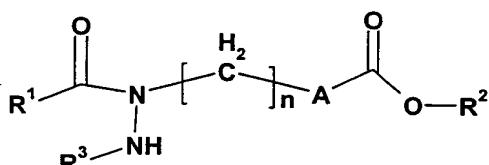
Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A process for the preparation of a hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, comprising the step of a reduction of a compound of Formula IV:



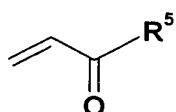
(IV)

wherein A, B, R¹, R², R³, R⁵ and n are as defined above.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process of according to claim 29, further comprising the step of an addition of compound of Formula V to a compound of Formula II through a Michael addition:



(II)



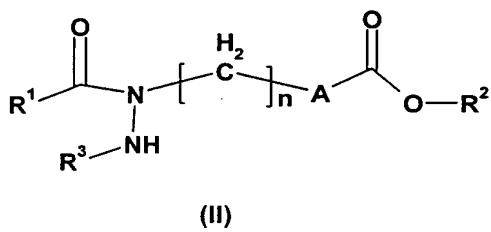
(V)

wherein A, B, R¹, R², R³ and R⁵ are as defined above; R⁴ is H.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process according to claims 32 to 34
claim 32, further comprising the step of saponification of the resulting compound of Formula I, wherein R¹ is not H into a compound of Formula I, and wherein R² is H.

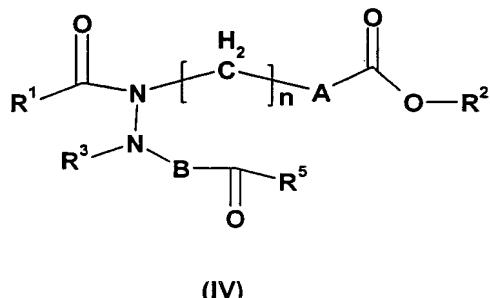
Claim 36 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process according to claims 32 to 35
claim 32, wherein A is phenyl.

Claim 37 (Original): A compound of Formula II:



as well as its geometrical isomers, its optically active forms as enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures of these, as well as salts thereof, wherein A, R¹, R², R³ and n are as defined above.

Claim 38 (Original): A compound of Formula IV:



as well as its geometrical isomers, its optically active forms as enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures of these, as well as salts thereof, wherein A, R¹, R², R³, R⁵ and n are as defined above.